

STIGMATA

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THE PROJECT STIGMA REPORT ON THE CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THE OCCURRENCE OF ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

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SOME ASPECTS OF THE INVESTIGATION

Many readers - the majority, in fact - have not been with us since STIGMATA's inception back in 1978. Also, the publication did not begin as "primer" material, but was directed at an audience which already possessed a basic knowledge of the mutilation phenomenon. Continued requests for basic information have reminded us of the need for a brief history and summation of the major elements of the mutilation enigma. The report which follows will cause long-time readers to nod off. We beg their indulgence. It goes without saying that this brief summary is anything but definitive - only a book-length work could accomplish that. We will be satisfied if we can give neophytes a "feel" for the mutilation phenomenon. The summary was adapted from a presentation delivered at the "Exploring Unexplained Phenomena II" conference at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in November of 1983. A similar but expanded paper, summarizing mutilations in a "Decade of Mystery" (1973-1983), will be presented at the MUFON 1984 UFO Symposium in San Antonio, Texas on July 6, 7 and 8, 1984.

Although we will not be able to adequately encompass all the aspects of the animal mutilation phenomenon, we will point out some of its more relevant elements. We will attempt to give the reader a feel for our rationale when we say that the "classic" animal mutilations are, if not the crime-of-the-century, at least in the running for the greatest mystery of (at least) modern times. "What about UFOs", one would expect to hear. It is true, of course, that the UFO phenomenon may present us with the most profound, puzzling and meaningful mystery of all the ages - if only because of what the reality of UFOs may portend.

One thing that mutilations have over UFOs - if it can be put in those terms - is the abundance of solid evidence. Each act or incident of mutilation leaves us with decidedly solid evidence in the form of a livestock carcass, minus selected parts. Of course, livestock do die natural deaths on the range and in pastures. These remains are inevitably going to be consumed - at least partially - by predatory and scavenging animals. But a few years back (in 1973 it began in earnest) farmers and ranchers began to report that they were finding carcasses of their livestock that were - different. It appeared that parts had been removed with precision, and in a manner inconsistent with that practiced by predators and scavengers. In fact, to the acute astonishment of veteran livestock people, natural predators - coyotes and the like - largely ignored the mutilated carcasses. There appeared to be little or no evidence of blood or bleeding from the wounds. For the most part, tracks and ground markings were altogether absent, even though ground conditions should have called for the presence of tracks. In many cases, the victim animal would annoyingly turn out to be the owner's best livestock, not the weak or sickly animals. Sometimes an animal would be seen alive and well the previous evening, only to be found dead and mutilated the next morning; or the animal would be alive and well in the morning and dead and mutilated that afternoon. Farm

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dogs would be skittish and would refuse to approach mutilated carcasses. The carcass would lay untouched. Perhaps eventually maggots and birds would move in (or a carcass would be found covered with flies, all dead) and maybe even mammalian predators after a while - but why would it take so long? Some carcasses were never fed upon by predacious animals. The carcass would just lay there to deteriorate on its own at an abnormally slow rate or at an unusually rapid pace. On isolated occasions, predators would feed upon a mutilated animal, on parts of the carcass away from the mutilation-wounds. The difference between the two would be obvious, graphic and revelatory. These factors (and more) suggested to the livestock-owner that something out-of-the-ordinary had occurred. Voila! The "classic" mutilations. Were these farmers and ranchers caught up in an epidemic of mass hysteria or "collective delusion"? There are those who would suggest that these livestock people only imagined that there was anything unusual about these events. Some opine that socio-psychological pressures and psycho-cultural trauma amassed in the American (including Canadian) collective unconscious and was being vented due to the stress of uncertain and uncomfortable world and national events - a collectively ailing Zeitgeist. The farmers and ranchers, according to this thinking, were merely misinterpreting the natural deaths of their livestock and the removal of parts by scavenging animals. Could these farmers and ranchers have known what they were talking about? Were they qualified observers? If these carcasses looked so different, could it be that predators were still responsible? They've always been around, after all. Did they adopt the use of fine implements or graduate a class in high-tech scavenging? Could predatory table manners have become that fastidious (As Ed Sanders has written, predators do not read Emily Post)?

Had the farmers and ranchers reporting mutilations been around long enough to be familiar with the effects of natural predation and to know the difference? In a study conducted by anthropologist Dr. Nancy Owen, then of the University of Arkansas, it was first suspected that the victim-farmers in mutilation-plagued northwestern Arkansas were largely young and inexperienced and fairly new to the area. But Dr. Owen found that most of the farmers reporting mutilations were in fact oldtimers - experienced livestock people who had been at it for a while. And we would contend that most of the mutilation victims (the owners, that is, not the animals) across the U.S. and Canada have been anything but greenhorns.

True or "classic" mutilations involve livestock (almost always) which have died or have been killed and from which parts have been removed through the apparent utilization of sharp instruments and/or high technology. Contrary to a frequent misconception, the same body parts are not taken in each case (although certain parts do predominate). The meat which humans would consume is almost always left untouched - a tragic waste of prime beef.

One of the most consistent features of the mutilation phenomenon is the lack of blood or bleeding from the wounds - even in animals mutilated before or shortly after death.

Sometimes there will be a small amount of blood, but rarely the bleeding that would be expected. One case was especially curious where bleeding was concerned: In 1978 in northeastern California several witnesses observed a "UFO" (exact description unknown) hovering over a corral containing a horse. Shortly thereafter, the horse was found dead or dying in the corral. There were no visible wounds on the body. Yet the animal appeared to be bleeding, as though through the hide itself. But as the blood appeared on the animal's coat, it seemed to dissipate or evaporate before it could coagulate or drip to the ground. No blood was ever seen on the ground, and it is reported that none was found in the carcass. But since no mutilation occurred, caution must be taken in including this case within the classic mutilation scenario.

Many of the most graphic mutilations feature amazingly smooth incisions where parts are removed - sometimes without even cutting hair. And in a case in Colorado, microscopic examination of hide from a mutilated calf revealed findings of the greatest potential importance. The examiner discovered that the "incision" was not a "cut" at all, not a laser burn - no cell was destroyed - no cell was disrupted in the mutilator's cut. The separation occurred between the cells - that is, along the cell walls. There is a natural cohesion between cells and any ordinary cut - as with a knife - would cut through the cells at random. To realize its potential as revelatory evidence, however, this finding needs to be repeated (for details see STIGMATA #13).

Most mutilation incisions are smooth. Some may be smooth yet uneven, as though exhibiting hesitation cut-marks. On some occasions, an evenly serrated edge is noted - the "pinking shears" effect (see photos in Donovan and Wolverton's MYSTERY STALKS THE PRAIRIE). In Johnson County, Texas in 1977 a mutilated carcass exhibited both smooth and serrated cuts. On some cuts there is the appearance of searing or burning, as though the wound were cauterized. Carcasses have been found with absolutely no bleeding from the wounds; yet when investigators cut into other areas of the carcass, bleeding occurs. All of this has fueled speculation that the mutilators are using lasers. In many cases, however, there is no evidence of searing or burning.

Some recently-announced surgical advancements could be most relevant to the mutilation investigation. A far ultraviolet excimer laser has been developed by IBM Research Labs. Conventional visible or infrared lasers literally vibrate molecules to pieces with their intense heat. But the "laser ablation" of the new instrument allows cutting without charring. It can cut precisely without damage to adjacent structures. It operates at near-room temperatures and breaks selective bonds between atoms". This produces smaller molecules and these smaller molecules vaporize at the lower temperature. According to IBM, the only problem lies in aiming the laser beam precisely. A spokesman says, "It is a very difficult job delivering such a tiny beam exactly where you want it to go". Considering the mutilation evidence, we would submit that perhaps someone somewhere has long since solved that problem. For further information on the UV excimer laser, we direct the reader to SCIENCE DIGEST (October 1983) and HIGH TECHNOLOGY (April 1984) - both of which contain revealing photographs of the results of this laser.

A new type of scalpel has been invented by an electrical engineer at the University of Maryland. A generator, attached by wires to the scalpel, produces microwaves. As the scalpel cuts, the microwaves cauterize the blood vessels and not only stop bleeding immediately on the surface, but can penetrate up to one-half-inch. Because of its efficiency at preventing bleeding, it is speculated that once this microwave scalpel gains FDA approval, surgical repairs to delicate organs such as spleens and kidneys, which now may take an hour or more, could be done in five minutes. And what might be termed an "ultrasonic scalpel" which dissolves tumors and tissue has been developed at Stanford University. These known and acknowledged advancements may only hint at the level of technology available to explain some of the seemingly unexplainable feats of the mutilators, be they human/terrestrial or otherwise.

Project Stigma's foray into this investigative realm began in 1970. With colleagues, we initiated a follow-up investigation into the mutilation-death of "Snippy" the horse, an event which occurred in Southern Colorado in 1967. The Snippy saga itself is another story for another time, but we can state that the puzzling aspects of the case have withstood the test of time. Despite the ill-informed detractors, the incident - not just the mutilation but a melange of peripheral phenomena - still maintains its credibility as an unexplained event.

With the exception of the Snippy case, our investigation has primarily been concerned with the mutilation wave of the decade which began in 1973. There were a handful of other reports before 1973, but it was in that year that the phenomenon began to make its presence known in earnest. And it began in the heartland of the United States - Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota. As many readers will recall, 1973 was also the year of the last big or generally-recognized UFO flap (although some are of the opinion that UFO flaps are as much a product of media coverage and/or manipulation as anything else - most mutilations occurred in the remarkable year of 1975, and a solid case can be made for a significant UFO flap that year). And there were other crises coming to a head in 1973: the Middle East, Watergate and the first big energy scare or "fuel shortage". In the ensuing decade "classic" or true animal mutilations occurred in over thirty states (including every state west of the Mississippi River) and in several Canadian provinces. We have amassed considerable information about similar events in other countries. There are enough differences, however, to allow the jury to remain out on the relevance of the "international mutes". We maintain our interest, although we have chosen to concentrate our investigative efforts on North America.

By late 1974, classic livestock mutilations had spread to Colorado, to West Texas and, in early 1975 to northeastern Texas near our Project Stigma headquarters. At that time our in-depth investigation began. As is usually case, lack of time and funding have prevented the probe from being as in-depth as we would have liked. In 1975 we began to maintain close contact with writer-poet-musician Ed Sanders, best known for his book *THE FAMILY*, about the Charles Manson furor. After being the recipient of a severed

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bovine tongue sent through the mail, Sanders launched his own mutilation investigation. His probe resulted in the first periodical or newsletter devoted to the mute probe and in two in-depth articles in OUI Magazine. Unfortunately, Sanders' publication, THE CAT-TLE REPORT, only lasted two issues. But we could see that there remained a very real need for a publication which would summarize developments in the investigation and serve as a clearing-house for information. In January of 1978, then, we inaugurated STIGMATA.

Throughout this investigation - through a determined but often frustrating assimilation and analysis of data - we have reached few conclusions. We "examine and consider everything - and believe nothing", drawing conclusions only where clearly warranted by the data. We are convinced that an unbiased (to whatever extent possible) investigator, examining all of the evidence with as few preconceptions and as much objectivity as he or she can muster - must conclude as we have: that classic animal mutilations have indeed occurred. They are not only anomalous and un-natural, but they are the product of a sophisticated, incredibly-efficient, confident (and perhaps arrogant) organization.

We do not know how many mutilations have occurred, since so many go unreported. We may have knowledge of 5 per cent of the true total or 95 per cent (though the real figure likely lies somewhere in between). A conservative estimate for the number of mutilations since (and including) 1973 (once hoaxes and misinterpretations are eliminated) would be 5,000, although one will hear estimates elsewhere of 2 to 3 times that number.

Some veterinarians and laboratory diagnosticians have claimed publicly that "classic" mutilations are actually the work of natural predators and scavengers. One problem with these diagnoses has been pointed out by Dr. Rue Jensen, director of the diagnostic laboratory at Colorado State University: an autopsy or necropsy or an examination of blood or tissue from a carcass must be done very shortly after death to be meaningful. We contend that beyond a certain point a lot is guesswork. There are also a number of diagnosticians who, for the record, have proclaimed that at least some mutilations have not been the work of natural predators - but that the parts have been removed with a surgical precision and often amazing methodology.

The rate of decomposition of mutilated carcasses is another oddity related to this phenomenon. Some remains seem to deteriorate rapidly; others, more slowly than would be expected. There are reports of carcasses not deteriorating properly when left out in warm weather - and those that decompose too rapidly in cool or cold weather. There is also a peculiar reaction on the part of other animals when confronted with a mutilated carcass. The speculation has been that there is "something" about such carcasses that "lower" animals can detect but humans cannot. We reported in STIGMATA #5 that laboratory rats seem to be able to detect or "smell" X-rays. The following are animal reaction cases excerpted from that now out-of-print STIGMATA #5:

(1) Logan County, Colorado; June 1976 - The only tracks of any kind near a mutilated heifer were those of a coyote, which approached no closer than 7 or 8 feet.

- (2) Logan Co., Colorado; Sept. 1976 - Coyote tracks no closer than 20-25 feet.
- (3) Logan Co., Colorado; Sept. 1976 - Coyote tracks encircle carcass; never close.
- (4) Kimball Co., Nebraska; August 1975 - Coyote tracks 10-12 feet from carcass.
- (5) Adams Co., Idaho; June 1975 - Five mutilated carcasses lay untouched for several days; a sixth was chewed on slightly. The sheriff, who had "been around livestock" all his life, found this "highly unusual". Bear tracks and manure were found around some of the carcasses; but the bears never touched the remains.
- (6) Carbon Co., Utah; October 1975 - Coyote tracks in area; mute carcass untouched.
- (7) Jones Co., Texas; December 1974 - A mutilated carcass lacked even "one tooth mark" after ten days, though coyotes tracks were all around.
- (8) Furnas Co., Nebraska; October 1975 - After ten days no predator had touched a mutilated carcass, except to pull off a small piece of hide on the belly. There were no flies, despite the presence nearby of a feed lot. Though the weather was warm (mid-70's) the carcass showed little deterioration. The owner, Mr. Hays, had a cow die during calving in the spring: "Coyotes cleaned out the ribcage before morning".
- (9) Garfield Co., Colorado: Sheriff Hogue's dog refused to approach a mutilated carcass in April 1976. The sheriff was bothered by the fact that the dog just "circled around".
- (10) Madison Co., Montana; Summer 1976 - Deputy Richard Laing's dog was with him when he drove up to a mutilation site. The dog was "cowering, shaking and crying" and would not leave the vehicle.
- (11) Little River Co., Arkansas; August 1977 - As Ezekial Green entered his pasture, his herd began to move toward him. But as he approached a mutilated carcass, the herd suddenly turned and stampeded from the area.
- (12) Crowley Co., Colorado; September 1975 - The night a bull was mutilated a dog was so spooked and wanted to get into a ranch house so badly that it ran completely through a screen door.
- (13) Butte Co., California; October 1975 - For a week before a mutilation occurred, cattle would refuse to enter an area of pasture that was thick and wet with clover. A calf was then found mutilated in that same section of pasture.
- (14) Snohomish Co., Washington; May 1978 - A pregnant cow was discovered mutilated 100 yards from a farmhouse. A small Dachshund and large Collie mix were at the site, but neither would approach closer than 25 ft. from the carcass, puzzling the owner.

When it comes to who or what is behind the mutilations, and why - speculation, needless to say, runs rampant. Some contend that our military, perhaps in concert with private interests, is conducting experiments relating to chemical-biological-bacteriological warfare - to determine, perhaps, the effect of toxins introduced into the biosphere, dispersed via the jet stream (more on this hypothesis upcoming in STIGMATA).

Other suggestions for mute-motivation have included the exploration for minerals, petroleum or nuclear fuels through analysis of water and vegetation that livestock consume. Specific elements collect in so-called "indicator organs" and in the analysis of these body parts, much can be learned about the composition of the earth's crust in target areas. Then there is the notion that a "cult" or coalition of cults is behind the mutilations. While it is known that some occult organizations do employ animal parts and mutilations ritualistically, the question is whether this can account for all (or even most) of the mutilation picture - that seems unlikely. Or - there is the contention - first voiced in Canada - that the mutilations are actually a crazed army of repressed introverts who periodically vent their frustrations on livestock. Or the idea that equally crazed Vietnam veterans mutilate to release their own pent-up tensions and savage tendencies.

UFOs?? As many readers know, UFOs have been seen near mutilation sites and near the times of mutilations. Sometimes the correlation between the two phenomena appears more circumstantial; sometimes more explicit. Unidentified airborne lights have been reported over mutilation-plagued areas in Colorado, New Mexico, Idaho, Washington, Virginia, Texas, Montana and Wyoming. Some reports feature descriptions of a light termed "Big Mama" in northeastern Colorado - a large light from which smaller lights appear to exit and then re-enter. There are reports of lights of remarkable and, to the witness, unforgettable brilliance. There are oddities like one report from Montana and one report from northeastern Colorado - both involving an egg-shaped object exhibiting arm-like appendages which appeared to the observers to be doing a "breaststroke". In 1975 a disturbing UFO flap occurred across the northern tier of states. "Disturbing" because many of the sightings (of UFOs and unidentified helicopters) were reported over sensitive missile sites and military installations, while military forces observed helplessly. There are even reports (unconfirmed, decidedly) that during times of UFO activity over missile sites, the targeting for one or more missiles had been unexplainably changed (changed to what?!). At the time of the UFO flap in the vicinity of Malmstrom Air Force Base in north-central Montana, the same area was hit by numerous mutilations.

In award-winning Denver journalist Linda Moulton Howe's television documentary "A Strange Harvest", crucial coverage is given to the case of Judy Doraty and her family. While driving south of Houston, Texas in that pivotal year of 1973, Mrs. Doraty and her daughter were apparently abducted on board a UFO. Mrs. Doraty had witnessed the transporting of a calf on board the UFO through a beam of light. While on board, she witnessed the mutilation of the animal (see STIGMATA #10). Such an account is not to-

tally unique. In May of 1980 a most interesting event occurred in northern New Mexico - an event similar in many respects to the Doraty case. A mother and her young son were driving on a rural highway near Cimarron, New Mexico. They observed two or more craft and, as Judy Doraty did, they observed a calf being abducted. Both observers were themselves abducted, taken on separate craft to what was apparently an underground installation, where the woman witnessed the mutilation of the calf. It has been alleged that she also observed a vat containing unidentified body parts floating in a liquid, and another vat containing the body of a male human. The woman was subjected to an examination and it has been further alleged that small metallic objects were implanted into her body as well as into her son's body. More than one source has informed us that CAT-scans have confirmed the presence of these implants. Paul Bennewitz, president of his own scientific company in Albuquerque and an investigator with the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, has been the principal investigator on the case. Interviewed in his office in April 1983, Bennewitz reports that, through regressive hypnosis of the mother and child and his own follow-up investigation (including communications received via his computer terminal which is ostensibly from a UFO-related source), he was able to determine the location of the underground facility, a kilometer underground beneath the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation near Dulce, New Mexico (since 1976, one of the areas of the U.S. hardest-hit by mutilations, coincidentally or whatever). Bennewitz's information is that this installation is operated jointly as part of an ongoing program of cooperation between the U.S. government and extraterrestrial ufonauts. The story continues that, after initial contacts years ago, the aliens agreed to give "us" certain technological advances while we provided them with the location for the New Mexico base and at least three others. Plus, the aliens were to be allowed to carry out certain operations - abductions and mutilations - without our intervention. The mother and son, by the way, were returned back to their car that night. Since the incident they have suffered repeated trauma and difficulties as they attempt to recover from the episode. We pass this along because the account is, of course, most crucial if true; but we are not in a position to confirm the alleged findings. Hopefully more information regarding this incident will be aired in the near future. We can only consider such reports while continuing to seek the evidence to refute or confirm.

The following report comes from central Texas, and it occurred shortly before the New Mexico incident described above, in April of 1980. A Milam County farmer was searching his pastures for a cow that had been about to give birth. As he walked along he suddenly saw two decidedly non-human creatures carrying a calf. Each appeared to have grabbed one limb of the calf and they were carrying it between them. The creatures were about four feet tall and light green or yellow-green in color. The witness could not tell if they were naked or were wearing something akin to skin-tight jumpsuits. The heads of the creatures were proportionally larger than human and the eyes appeared to extend partially around the side of the head. The farmer wasn't certain that the beings had noticed him, but he was extremely frightened by the unexpected sight. He quickly returned to his house. He refused to tell his family what he had seen, though they

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could detect that he was upset about something. Two days later he returned to the area of the sighting. He found what was left of the calf - the head, feet and hide. The animal had apparently been skinned - the hide pulled inside-out up over the head - but the remainder of the carcass was missing. Later, the witness finally described the experience for his family. There had been no known UFO activity in that area and the somewhat taciturn Texas farmer never postulated a UFO connection. After hearing Dr. J. Allen Hynek on a radio program, the farmer's son wrote to Dr. Hynek regarding his father's encounter. The farmer was later interviewed by Linda Moulton Howe of Littleton, Colorado and by a Texas investigator, Gladys Squires.

While there is much to be said for the potential UFO-mutilation "link", and while we could parade cases by the reader ad infinitum (some would say ad nauseum), one aspect of the mutilation mystery which we feel is most pertinent and must be taken into account is the "mystery helicopter".

As mentioned previously, we have considered the recent mutilation wave to have begun in earnest in 1973. When one examines reports from that period (and from 1974, as well), it is noted that first there was an epidemic of livestock rustling throughout the Midwest - in parts of Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois. In many of the areas where rustling was a problem, people were observing helicopters, flying low over pastures and even harrassing livestock. There are even a couple of accounts of witnesses on the ground being shot at from an unidentified helicopter. In some of these areas, there was considerable public uproar and, in the opinion of many, the helicopters were somehow allied with the rustlers. Then, in several areas in the states mentioned, accounts of livestock mutilations were beginning to supplant the rustling reports. Unidentified helicopters were still being seen; but they were now being reported in the areas where mutilations, not rustlings, were occurring. As mutilation reports exploded across the Midwest and West in 1975, the number of "mystery helicopter" reports also increased in many areas, burgeoning into many previously un-muted and un-choppered areas.

This helicopter/mutilation concurrence has continued throughout the past decade. We have concentrated much of our attention on the "mystery helicopters" because we suspect that if we can acquire some concrete answers illuminating the role of these helicopters, we will be much closer to an understanding of the mutilation phenomenon as a whole. We have on file well over 200 accounts of mystery helicopters near or at or in the vicinity of mutilation sites. We previously published a special report and catalog of these events (THE CHOPPERS...AND THE CHOPPERS).

Some of these helicopter sightings are mere flyovers - and some innocent coincidence may well be involved. But there are altogether too many reports of helicopters that harrass herds of livestock, spotlighting cattle, chasing ground observers and even landing in pastures; and some incidents have featured as many as 5 to 7 helicopters at once. People have been paced and chased down country roads. Deputies have pulled into past-

ures to watch unlit choppers rise and quickly fly away. There was near-panic in the ranchlands of Eastern Colorado in 1975, as farmers were ready to shoot down anything resembling a chopper. For that reason, a number of helicopters on routine, legitimate missions were grounded temporarily. In northeastern New Mexico in late 1975 the public furor rose to such a crescendo that the Federal Aviation Administration announced that it was launching its own probe into the mystery helicopters and that FAA personnel were taking depositions from the public. A National Guard helicopter was sent to the Clayton, New Mexico airport to give chase at the next chopper sighting. But while the Guard chopper was in the area, the mystery helicopter sightings ceased. We do not know the results of the FAA investigation, as they have since denied having any knowledge or information about it - Perhaps they found a reason not to announce their findings.

Regarding the relationship between the mystery choppers and animal mutilations, there are five primary hypotheses for the origin and purpose of the helicopters:

- (1) The helicopters originate from the same source as (at least some) UFOs and likely are, in fact, UFOs themselves, disguised as terrestrial craft.
- (2) The helicopters are "private", "civilian" or "corporate", operated by an endlessly-financed "cult", secret society, paramilitary organization or an international cabal of industrialists, energy czars or similar manipulators.
- (3) The helicopters originate with the government of the United States (perhaps in collusion with Canada or other nations). They are directly involved in the mutilation "mission", likely as part of a massive chemical-biological warfare (CBW) experiment.
- (4) The helicopters originate with the United States government and they are as curious about the mutilations as are the rest of us. They are occasionally present near mutilation sites to monitor the activities of the "real" mutilators. The military-intelligence community is conducting its own investigation, and they know little more than we "civilians" do.
- (5) They know much more than "civilians" do. The helicopters are of military origin. The government of the United States possesses a very substantial amount of knowledge about the mutilators, their means and motives. The government may be attempting to persuade mutilation investigators and the populace as a whole that perhaps the military might be behind at least some mutilations, a diversion away from the real truth. There is implied a prior knowledge which enables the helicopters to arrive around the time of a mutilation. Interestingly enough, some of the unidentified helicopter sightings have occurred shortly after a mutilation event, suggesting that this postulated ability to anticipate mutilations may be far from perfected.

Our present inclination is to suspect that the truth lies in some combination of (4) and (5), though the remainder cannot be ignored. Or perhaps the real picture isn't even presented here.

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Many detractors of the reality of "classic" mutilations, in their various verbal effluvia, take the easy way out by simply ignoring the mystery helicopters. But the unidentified copters are an important and inherent part of the mutilation puzzle. We need to know where they are coming from, who is flying them and why.

After having considered the accounts of UFOs and helicopters in apparent conjunction with mutilations, we must hasten to add: In the vast majority of classic animal mutilation cases, nothing is seen; nothing is heard; no one is caught-in-the-act. As Louis Girodo (Chief Investigator for the District Attorney's office in Trinidad, Colorado) once asked: Is it conceivable that a human agency of some sort could conduct thousands of genuine mutilations without making a substantial mistake - without being captured or even seen (with the possible exception of the abduction/mutilation cases we mentioned)? Even the Mafia and the CIA have leaks and moles and mistakes. How can the mutilators operate with such seeming impunity? Not only do the mutilators seem to operate with perfection - they know it. One detects a sense of arrogance, super-confidence. And one often gains the impression that the phenomenon is theatrical, at least to some degree. Could one purpose be to gauge our reactions?

There is no attempt made to conceal mutilated carcasses. One school of thought suggests that the victim animals are taken away, mutilated and then returned. There is some evidence to support that contention. But if the animals are taken and mutilated elsewhere, why bring them back? Why not drop the carcass in some remote canyon or arroyo or otherwise dispose of the remains? It may not necessarily be that the mutilated carcasses are purposely placed (such as the one near NORAD headquarters in Colorado, on the Fort Hood Military Reservation in Central Texas or on Kirtland Air Force Base at Albuquerque, New Mexico). It might be that the mutilators don't concern themselves with where they leave the results of their handiwork. They know that, regardless how many we find or where we find them - there appears to be nothing we can do about it.

We cannot know if a continuation of a mere accumulation of evidence is going to get us any closer to a solution - or if it will aid or allow us to make the needed quantum-leap in understanding this phenomenon. The very next piece of data one acquires may synergistically allow a lot of pieces to fall into place. For that reason the quest for raw data continues. Much of that information is in the hands of official agencies on the federal, state and county levels. We must urge more cooperation between the "official" and "civilian" realms, with a greater exchange of information, a pooling of resources.

The mutilations haven't ceased, though there are fewer reports (With that, one must ask the detractors whatever became the fastidiously voracious predators that they claimed were the "real" mutilators - did they find other work?). Whether mutilation reports cease or continue, the investigation - and the reach for understanding - will continue.

MUTE-RELATED BREAKTHROUGHS?

Ever-accelerating efforts on the part of scientists worldwide, civilian and military, have been directed toward research in recombinant DNA, gene-splicing - tampering with the very nature of physical life itself. This research is becoming increasingly sophisticated and much is cloaked in secrecy. Significant inroads have likely been made of which the majority of the populace is unaware. And, needless to say, if one should postulate a technological civilization far in advance of ours - their advances in genetic engineering could be well-nigh unimaginable.

Some recent advances of the genetic frontier relating to cattle and humans is not only worth making note of, but could be most relevant to mutilation research. In 1983, one professional scientist (identity known to us) claimed that the mutilators of livestock were "harvesting" DNA and genetic material. A provocative and plausible contention, but one with little support generally. Now, it appears that some such support may be amassing.

Dr. James Womack, an animal geneticist with the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University, has discovered that humans share "many of their innermost genetic secrets, represented by 'perfect match' chromosomes," with cattle. The extraordinary announcement appeared in a UPI wire story on February 27, 1984, portions of which are reproduced below:

"We're pretty excited about what this means", (Womack) said, "both for agriculture and human research. The discovery was unexpected and just developed in recent months", he told United Press International. Womack said he has discussed his preliminary findings, soon to be published in the national journal of "Genetic Maps", with medical experts. "The reaction has been encouraging", he said. Until now, researchers could compare human chromosomes - the carriers of genes, the basic units of heredity - only with those of laboratory mice, which are dissimilar but genetically understood. "Gene maps" also exist for cats and monkeys, but they do not have chromosome groupings comparable to those found in cattle. "We think the potential is obvious for human medical research" (said Womack).

Womack's research revealed that cattle carry a "perfect match" of portions of the important 21st chromosome pair in humans, a strand known to carry the characteristics of Mongolism or Down's Syndrome, a congenital disease associated with human mental retardation. In addition, large fragments of four other chromosome pairs were matched. "What we're already finding are big chunks of cattle chromosomes identical to large regions of human chromosomes", he said. "These are big blocks of homologous material, perfect matches. The genes fall in the same sequence. We must have more in common than previously believed".

Dr. Womack explained to Project Stigma that the only material appearing in the "Genetic Maps" journal is the cattle gene map itself, with no article or text, as such. However, Womack currently has an article in preparation regarding his research. Project Stigma will look forward to presenting more details in the near future.

STIGMATA reader and researcher Frank Colacarro, Jr. of Colonia, New Jersey, has provided us with yet another United Press International release from December 1983. The story, from an unidentified newspaper, is headlined: "Cows Tested As Donors Of Transfusions". Excerpts follow:

Texas researchers have reported progress on a temporary replacement (for human blood) made from cattle blood. "This may be a good substitute for blood", said Dr. Mario Feola, professor of surgery at Texas Tech University and an author of the study, published in Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics. The idea behind blood substitutes is to find a fluid that can carry oxygen to tissues and replenish lost volume in cases where real blood is unavailable, whether for supply reasons or lack of proper type. Scientists have been pursuing two avenues toward such a fluid: "Artificial" blood and hemoglobin solutions. An artificial compound called Fluosol, manufactured by the Green Cross company of Japan, is being investigated at several centers nationwide. The oxygen-carrying substance achieved good results in early tests.

Hemoglobin compounds are made from human hemoglobin, the part of the red blood cell which carries oxygen, or animal hemoglobin. The problem with hemoglobin compounds has been purity. The team from Texas Tech and West Texas State University used a special filtration process to purify hemoglobin from the blood of Hereford cattle, Feola said. A bovine hemoglobin molecule is similar to a human one, so the compound may not cause any immunological problems provided it is administered to a patient only once, instead of used as a long-term life sustainer. If given repeatedly, it could be rejected, he said, causing hemorrhaging and other problems. The advantage to cattle blood is that it is more readily available than human blood, the surgeon said. He estimated about a year of animal testing remained before the compound could be tried out in humans. The Army has been investigating hemoglobin compounds made from human blood for some time. Dr. Robert Bolin, chief of the blood research division at the Letterman Army Institute of Research in San Francisco, said human trials won't be considered for 3 to 5 years.

In an upcoming STIGMATA, we will examine aspects of chemical-biological-bacteriological warfare and its relevance to the mutilation investigation. Robert Harris & Jeremy Paxman in A Higher Form of Killing (Hill and Wang, 1982) point out that it is to a large extent through discoveries in veterinary science that many new biological weapons have been developed.

MUTES ON MILITARY LAND

A minor controversy has developed over the years over whether a cow was actually mutilated and discovered "at the NORAD gate" or on NORAD property near Colorado Springs in 1975. The reportedly-mutilated animal, in fact, was discovered in a field near the road to NORAD. According to the Colorado Springs Gazette-Telegraph, 7-6-75:

The Satan-like killing occurred between June 28 and Thursday in a field off the NORAD road, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of state highway 115. The owner of the cow, Henry Clarence Ratzburg, said he missed the cow from a herd of five bulls and five cows Sunday. He said he toured the area at that time and then again Monday with his wife to no avail. Ratzburg said he found the carcass of the cow Tuesday when he discovered a strong odor while he was mending a fence. Sheriff Deputy Sgt. Robert Stone and Deputy William Misiretta investigated. Even though the carcass was greatly deteriorated and eaten by parasitic insects, the deputies were able to identify, found at different locations, severed from the animal, three parts of a cow's breast, the uterus, rectum and intestines. Sgt. Stone ruled out the possibility that the animal's sex organs were removed by a coyote. Sgt. Stone said in his opinion the animal did not struggle when it went down, but was possibly induced with a tranquilizer. The owner said the cow killed was carrying a calf due in two months.

A February 1975 article in an unidentified Texas newspaper describes several recent calf mutilations in Coryell County in Central Texas, including one mutilated calf discovered on the Ft. Hood Military Reservation. In January of 1981, information on this incident was requested from the Dept. of the Army at Ft. Hood, under the Freedom of Information Act. An initial reply from Ft. Hood requested \$198.00 for searching of post newspapers and Military Police Blotters. An appeal for waiving of fees was submitted, and in February 1981, Col. Harold P. Rose responded, in part:

- (a). A search of the post newspapers for the months of February and March 1975 was made for information concerning all possible incidents involving the killing and/or mutilation of cattle or other livestock within the boundaries of Fort Hood. No articles on the subject were found.
- (b). The Provost Marshall maintains Military Police Blotters for a period of 5 years. The 1975 file has been destroyed under provisions of Army Regulations 190-45 and 340-18-5. A review of subsequent files reveals no reported cases of mutilated cattle.
- (c). Historical documents in Director of Facilities Engineering do not indicate any cattle mutilated on Fort Hood nor do grazing lessees remember any cattle mutilated on the installation.
- (d). The Veterinary Activity has no record of mutilation cases and assigned personnel are unaware of any such cases in which the Veterinary Activity was involved.

(Continued)

(e). The Range Activity has no record of killing or mutilation cases.

The above is not meant to say the (article) is incorrect. The rapid turnover of installation personnel may be responsible for our inability to surface information on this and other similar incidents.

In another incident, a reliable source has informed us that, on or about July 24, 1979, a mutilated bovine was discovered on Kirtland Air Force Base, which lies adjacent to Albuquerque, New Mexico. A base photographer was reportedly called out to take photos.

"Meet The Mutilators", an article by long-time mute investigator David Perkins appears in Vol. II, No. 1 of a new publication, BRUNT MAGAZINE. Send \$5.00 for two issues to P.O. Box 0; Farisita, Colorado 81037. Perkins is co-author of ALTERED STEAKS and has penned mutilation articles for a number of other publications. A warning, though - BRUNT is not rated PG.

At this writing, the long-awaited book CLEAR INTENT (See STIGMATA #20) by Lawrence Fawcett and Barry J. Greenwood is, according to Prentice-Hall, the publishers, to be distributed in June 1984. Fawcett has also served as one of the principle American investigators into a famous (or infamous) British UFO incident, variously termed the "Rendlesham Case" (because of it's occurrence in the Rendlesham Forest in Suffolk) or the "Bentwaters Case" after the nearby NATO air base manned by the RAF and the USAF. Three British investigators - Brenda Butler, Dot Street and Jenny Randles - have written a book on the case titled SKY CRASH. The publisher, Neville Spearman Ltd., has announced that SKY CRASH will be published in the summer of 1984.

A Mexican source has informed veteran mutilation and paranormal investigator Tommy Roy Blann that in the recent past Mexican officials lodged complaints with the USDA, because some cattle that were being shipped from the U.S. to Mexico had been mutilated; that is, missing certain body parts, such as female organs, udders and teats. We'll pass along any details regarding this that might be revealed in the future.

IN SEARCH OF...CRUX!

Where our separate publication, CRUX, is concerned: No one has missed an issue because the first edition has yet to be published. Now we're working on being two years behind schedule. We apologize (as always). The delay is primarily due to slow progress into investigations concerning the major material to be covered in CRUX. If at all possible, CRUX will appear in 1984, @ \$3.00 for the single issue. Because of the delays, refunds will gladly be provided upon request to anyone who has ordered CRUX.
